

Listing of the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application.

1. (Currently amended) A method of purifying nucleic acid from a sample solution in a container, comprising ~~causing relative movement between the container and~~ inserting a filtration unit into the container, the filtration unit ~~being disposed at least partly within the container and~~ having a filter and a filtrate chamber, whereby the sample is made to pass through the filter into the filtrate chamber.

2. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method according to claim 1 wherein an exterior surface of the filtration unit forms a seal with an interior surface of the container.

3. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method according to ~~claim 1 or~~ claim 2 wherein the filtration unit comprises at least upstream and downstream filters in series.

4. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method according to claim 3 wherein the upstream filter has a higher size exclusion threshold than the downstream filter.

5. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~ claim 4 wherein the container is a centrifuge tube.

6. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 4 comprising further purifying nucleic acid from the filtrate.

7. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method according to claim 6 comprising contacting the filtrate with a nucleic acid binding agent.

8. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method according to claim 7 wherein the nucleic acid binding agent is a charge-switch agent.

9. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method according to ~~claim 7 or~~ claim 8 comprising passing the filtrate through a cartridge comprising said nucleic acid binding agent.

10. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method according to claim 9 wherein the filtrate is drawn through said cartridge by suction.

11. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method according to claim 10 wherein the filtrate is drawn through the cartridge by a syringe.

12. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method according to ~~any one of claims 7 to 11~~ claim 11 further comprising washing the nucleic acid binding agent.

13. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method according to ~~any one of claims 7 to 12~~ claim 12 further comprising eluting the nucleic acid from the nucleic acid binding agent.

14. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method according to claim 6 comprising further purifying nucleic acid from the filtrate by buffer exchange or precipitation.

15. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method according to claim 14 wherein said buffer exchange comprises dialysis or ultrafiltration.

16-32. (Canceled)